Revamping of sick fertilizer plants

*92. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study on fertiliser plants sponsored by the Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) in 1984 has recommended revamping of sick fertilizer plants; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the report and what steps are being taken for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) A study on 'inter-firm comparison' of fertiliser plants was undertaken by the Bureau of Public Enterprises during 1985. Among other suggestions, the study team recommended a rehabilitation package for chronically sick plants and the tasks to be undertaken for reviving these units to achieve higher capacity utilisation.

Even prior to this study, Government has undertaken effective steps to improve the capacity utilisation of those plants which were operating at low capacity. Some of the steps already taken were sanctioning installation of captive power plants, replacement of old equipments and revamping of some units. These activities are being continued wherever need is felt with a view to improving capacity utilisation. Suitable provision for funds has been made for rehabilitation of the old and sick units during the 7th Plan.

T.V. programmes in regional languages

*93. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI :
SHRI KALPNATH RAI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to produce more T.V. programmes in regional languages and telecast them from the respective regional TV stations; and

(b) if so, what are the detail thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) As a matter of policy, Doordarshan encourages regional Kendras to produce programmes in the language of the respective regions. All full-fledged Doordarshan Kendras are putting out service, mainly in their respective languages, for duration of about 3 hours daily. To utilise the medium of T.V. for aiding the achievement of various national objectives, it is necessary to create facilities for communicating with the people in their own languages and, at the same time, make the viewers in one part of the country aware of the culture, tradition, development, etc. in other parts. In keeping with this, there is a plan to have three-tier service comprising primary service, national service and local service. Each major State will have its own primary service in the language of the State, originating from the TV centre at the capital. This service will be available throughout the State. Programmes in national service will continue to be contributed by regional Kendras and the service will originate from Delhi, to be relayed by all transmitters in the country. The local service will be available for a limited duration of the primary channels transmitter, to cater for local requirements and events in culturally distinct, important parts of major States. In metropolitan cities, which have multi-lingual viewership with distinct cultural characteristics, local service requires longer transmission time and hence separate transmitters.

2. Within the available resources, attempts have been made in the VII Plan proposals of Doordarshan to achieve the foregoing objectives. By the end of the VII Plan, all States and Union Territories (except Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli)

will have programme generation facilities. Further, provision has been made in the VII Plan for satellite uplinks and additional dedicated microwave links in various states to link the relay transmitters in individual States with the TV centres at the respective State capitals. National service is already available throughout the country. The various new schemes included in the VII Plan will further strengthen the national service. Finally, with regard to local service, provisional has been made for second channel service at the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and for establishment of programme production centres at some important cities (other than State capitals) in some major States.

Expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant

*94. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited is currently implementing an expansion programme at Bokaro Steel Plant to expand its capacity from 1.7 million tonnes to 4 million tonnes of ingot steel per annum. There is no proposal to expand the capacity of the plant beyond the 4 million tonnes stage.

Doordarshan Studio at Vijayawada

*95. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Doordarshan studio at Vijayawada during the year 1986-87; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) :(a) and (b) Establishment of a colour TV studio centre at Vijayawada is included inthe VII Plan of Doordarshan. Normally, the time required for completion of such a project is about 4 years after formal approval to the project.

National Rivers

*96. SHRI M. KADHARSHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to declare some rivers as National Rivers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Quality of Doordarshan programmes

*97. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to improve the quality of Doordarshan programmes in the country;

(b) whether Government are planning to purchase some serials from foreign countries; and

(c) if so, what are the guidelines for the purchase of copyright for the telecast of such serials in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c)

Improvement in the quality of programmes of Doordarshan is